

# *The* **MESSENGER**

June 2021



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## SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

*Worship moves to the  
Church House  
Sunday, June 13!*

Beginning that date, going through September 5, worship will begin at 10:00am. Once the cicada's have gone, we plan to worship outdoors again when weather permits.

## *Staff*

**the Rev. Jeffrey Lang**

**Amy**

Director of Music and Organist

**Kate**

Choir Director and Vocalist

**Megan**

Vocalist

**Deborah**

Administrative Assistant

**Logan**

Vocalist



Items for the **July/August** edition of this newsletter are accepted in the church office through **9:00AM, Monday, June 28, 2021.**

*Early submissions are  
always joyfully accepted!*

Submitted information will be edited for clarity, accuracy, and length.

Happy  
*Father's*  
Day

**June 20**



### *From the Pastor's Desk*

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The slower pace of summer sometimes seems like an extended Sabbath, a time to rest, reflect, and find extra occasions to gather with family or friends for an outdoor picnic or vacation getaway.

Considering the idea of Sabbath, in Genesis 2:3 we find God modeling a day of rest for humanity on the seventh day after six days of creative work.

Later, on Mount Sinai, God's people are given the law of Moses in the Ten Commandments, and are enjoined to observe a day of sabbath rest (Exodus 20:11).

The resurrection of Jesus occurred on the first day of the week. The earliest Jewish believers in Jesus, seem to quickly have transitioned from a Saturday Sabbath to gather instead for worship on Sunday, the day of resurrection.

Acts 20:7 records: *"Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread ..."*

Though the primitive church observed Sunday as a day of worship, Paul understood the Sabbath, as a religious obligation, as having been fulfilled by Christ. After Christ, observance of holy days and a Sabbath is a matter of conscience, not obligation.

Writing in Colossians 2:16,17, Paul exhorts: *"So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ."*

Paul reiterates that theme of Christian liberty regarding a Sabbath day in Romans 14:5-6a and Galatians 4:9-10.

For the earliest Christians, the Sabbath was a part of the law of Moses which anticipated the work of Christ. After Christ, Sabbath observance was understood as a ceremonial part of the law which was fulfilled and no longer binding on the believer.

The essence of Sabbath observance after the first coming of Christ is its signal of freedom and grace. All of life has been 'sabbathed' by Christ for us (Hebrews 3 and 4). We can rest from efforts to justify ourselves and instead rest in the grace and love of God which claims us where we are at and takes us to where God wants us to be.

Understood in that way, observing the Lord's Day by gathering at church, and being deliberate about setting aside usual obligations and busy-ness, can become an opportunity to catch your breath, refocus on what's important, and cultivate being, and not just doing.

God's saving love has claimed us in Christ, and so Sunday, as the Lord's Day, is neither a dour obligation nor merely ritual observance, but rather an opportunity for joyful worship with other believers, and enjoyment of family, friends, and the world around us. That understanding of Sabbath can inform the way we view the slower days of summer, Sundays, and every day, as the gifts of a gracious God.

# DEACONS

Leading through Serving.

The Deacons offer prayer, companionship, rides, or meals, but don't always know where care is needed. If you know of a need (your own or another's), call the church office or any of our Deacons: Susan A, Marianna B, Jane J, and Susy S serving as Moderator.

William B  
Levi C  
Dottie and Howard E  
Fern E  
Jacquie O



As the church year winds down we have received member contributions totaling \$127,064.14 and non-member contributions of \$6,172.00 for a total of \$133,236.14. With the addition of a music donation and other sundry income, we are at \$143,089.94 *at the end of April.*

Total revenue for the church year, which ends June 30, 2021, was budgeted at \$150,000.00, so with two months left, we seem to be on a good path to meet this amount.

Respectfully and thankfully,  
Matt



## Birthdays and Anniversaries

Jacqueline O.....	9
Margie and David B.....	13
Beverley and Mark B.....	14
Carey and John C.....	14
Jamie and Robert H.....	14
Diane and Mike B.....	19
Pat and Stu C.....	20
Tom S.....	20



## *Fill the Glendale Village Square with Food*

Saturday, June 12 8:00AM-2:00PM

*Drop off your donations next to the Train  
Depot in the Village Square.*



Your generosity provided 60 pounds of food  
and personal care items to Valley Interfaith

Community Resource  
Center, in May.

*Thank  
You!*

Band-a-buck donations  
totaled \$100.00.



Instead of our normal June  
Food Offering, we will use  
our Saturday, June 12 *Fill  
the Glendale Village Square  
with Food* for both events.



## **24th Annual Golf Outing**

Saturday, September 18

Details will be provided  
closer to the event.



Canned foods—fruit, vegetables, soup, tuna,  
chicken, peanut butter, jelly ...

Boxed foods—cereal, pasta, mac-n-cheese,  
crackers, rice, noodles ...

Personal hygiene—liquid bath soap, shampoo,  
toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, shaving  
cream

Household cleaning—dish detergent, floor  
cleaner, laundry detergent

Paper products—bathroom tissue, paper towels,  
napkins, facial tissue ...

At the close of this event, your donations will  
be shared with Valley Interfaith Community  
Resource Center and Princeton Closet.

*Don't have time to park?* Helpers will be on  
hand to gratefully accept your drive-through  
donations. *Don't like to shop?* Cash or checks  
are gladly accepted. *Not available on June 12?*  
You can drop off donations at the church any  
time and we will see that they are added to our  
collection on the Square.

This event generally totals over \$5,000.00 in  
food, personal care items, paper products,  
cleaning products, cash or checks.

Mark Brueggeman will share his musical gifts  
on this special day.

*Believe it or not, this is our 11<sup>th</sup> year  
for this Mission Outreach event.  
Let's make it a great one!*



## *Welcoming the Holy*

Abraham and Sarah welcomed three strangers who turned out to be the Lord. Jesus said, "If anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple," the giver will be rewarded (Matthew 10:42, NIV). An ancient Jewish proverb asserts: "Hospitality is one form of worship." A Russian Orthodox monk is said to have told a younger one, "Sometimes I see a stranger coming up the road and I say, 'Oh, Jesus Christ, is it you again?'" And an old Gaelic poem declares, "Often, often, often, goes the Christ in the stranger's guise."

Sometimes we think we must do something big to serve God. Today, when you smile at someone on the street, take time to entertain a child's question, bring cookies to a new neighbor, thank a server or clerk ... know that you are serving Jesus, that you are worshipping God.

—Heidi Mann



## *Angels along life's trail*

Weary long-distance hikers sometimes encounter "trail angels" — people who offer food and drink, bandages, shoelaces, and even a place to do laundry. Along the Pacific Crest Trail, one home, dubbed Hiker's Heaven, serves as a mail drop. Trail angels say they find great joy in offering kindness to strangers.

Unexpected kindnesses — and regular rest stops — make any journey less grueling and more enjoyable. That's also true on the journey of life as we experience (and bestow) generosity and pause to spend time with God. After all, "It is God to whom and with whom we travel," said Elisabeth Elliot. "And while he is the end of our journey, he is also at every stopping place."



## *An invitation to rest*

Summer calls to mind a slower pace, time off from school and work. But many still face daily demands this time of year: farmers work long hours; teachers may take seasonal work to make ends meet; parents with kids now home all day may catch up on work late at night. Still, may the longer days and warmer weather beckon you into a bit of free time this season. Listen:

"When you take time to replenish your spirit, it allows you to serve others from the overflow. You cannot serve from an empty vessel."

—Eleanor Brownn  
(public speaker and educator)

"Sometimes it's important to work for that pot of gold. But other times it's essential ... to make sure that your most important decision in the day [is] which color to slide down on the rainbow."

—Douglas Pagels (author)

"Rest time is not waste time; it is economy to gather fresh strength. ... In the long run, we shall do more by sometimes doing less."

—Charles Spurgeon

"Come to me, all you that are weary ... and I will give you rest. ... For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

—Jesus (Matthew 11:28-30)

# Upcoming Events



Men, mark your calendar for Wednesday, June 9, and gather at Gold Star in Springdale for lunch and fellowship beginning at 12:30PM.

Please come prepared to wear a face covering and respect social distancing should Gold Star be enforcing such guidelines.

## *Hallelujah! Praise the Lord! We're gathering for a Fellowship Dinner!*

Gather for good food, fun, and fellowship.  
The Meritage  
Wednesday, June 16  
6:00PM-8:00PM

We'll be in the upstairs dining room where you may order your favorite meal from the full menu!

Reservations are not required, but we will need an accurate count so to share with The Meritage. If you haven't already done so, please call or email the church office by 9:30AM Monday, June 14.

Please follow Covid protocols in place at that time as we once again gather to share a meal with friends.



## *Points for honesty*



A Sunday school teacher was telling his class the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37), in which Jesus describes three individuals' responses to a man found beaten and in grave need of help along the side of the road. Hoping to bring home the point of the parable, the teacher asked the class, "If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?"



A hushed silence followed, broken after a moment by a thoughtful little girl: "I think I'd thrown up."

## *A matter of perspective*



Pastor and author T.D. Jakes tells of visiting a community in Africa where a woman from the local church welcomed him into her small home. Proud to have built the structure herself, she swept her arm toward the door — a blanket — as if inviting him into a mansion. She offered him a seat — on her bed — and graciously served a meal. As Jakes departed in a small plane, rain began falling. The pastor looked down to see his host dancing in gratitude.



He was struck by the contrast between his African host and many Americans, including himself. How often we let worries about our "small" house, lack of nice furniture or inability to serve gourmet food get in the way of welcoming friends or new acquaintances into our home. How often we view rain as an annoyance, complicating our day and depressing our mood. Meanwhile, this woman was eager to share her humble house and grateful for God's gift of moisture in her dry homeland.





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6  10:30AM- Worship	7 9:00AM- Committee reports to session due	8	9 12:30PM- Men's Lunch Gold Star 6:00PM- Session Meeting (Church House)	10 	11	12 8:00AM- Fill the Glendale Village Square with Food (event ends at 2:00PM)
13 10:00AM- Worship	14 	15	16 6:00PM- Fellowship Dinner at The Meritage	17	18	19
20 10:00AM- Worship 	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 10:00AM- Worship	28 9:00AM- July/August Messenger items due	29	30			

This calendar is a living document subject to frequent changes.

Check the website for the most accurate calendar.  
([firstpresbyterianglendale.org](http://firstpresbyterianglendale.org))

Please call the church office with calendar updates.



## First Presbyterian Church, Glendale

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Glendale, OH 45246

513-771-6195  
glenpres@fuse.net  
firstpresbyterianglendale.org

the Reverend Jeffrey Lang

In-person worship in the sanctuary—10:30AM.

Beginning Sunday, June 13, in-person worship  
begins at 10:00AM in the Church House.

### *Church Office Hours*

Monday, 9AM-3PM, Tuesday, 9AM-1PM  
Wednesday, 9AM-1PM, Thursday, 9AM-3PM  
Friday, closed

Shared with you in Christian love



## *What is a dad?*

A dad is someone who wants to  
catch you before you fall  
but instead picks you up, brushes you off,  
and lets you try again.

A dad is someone who wants to  
keep you from making mistakes  
but instead lets you find your own way,  
even though his heart breaks in silence when you get hurt.

A dad is someone who holds you when you cry,  
scolds you when you break the rules,  
shines with pride when you succeed,  
and has faith in you even when you fail.

Happy  
*Father's*  
Day  
June 20